

## REPORT

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COUNTRY Albania/USSR

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SUBJECT     The Soviet Air Force in Albania

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1. Apart from the Soviet officers and specialists who have infiltrated into the Albanian Air Force, the USSR is allegedly transforming Albania into a large air base of its own. With this end in view, the Tirana, Berat, and Shkoder airfields are gradually being prepared to receive larger Soviet air forces. In addition, there is a number of Soviet air units and headquarters in Albania today, located as follows:
  - a. Soviet Air Force Headquarters: in Tirana. Consists of about 50 Soviet officers and various aviation specialists, under the command of a Soviet Colonel. Headquarters on the Tirana airfield.
  - b. 148 Fighter Squadron: Headquarters on the Tirana airfield.
  - c. Transport Group: Headquarters on the Berat airfield.
  - d. 56 Bomber Squadron: Headquarters on the Berat airfield.
  - e. Transport Regiment: Regimental headquarters and one squadron are stationed on the Gjinokaster airfield. One squadron (in addition?) is on Albanian soil, while the rest of this regiment is stationed in Bulgaria.
  - f. 298 Fighter Squadron: Headquarters on the Vlone airfield.
  - g. Transport Squadron: Headquarters on the Vlone airfield.
  - h. One section with four fighters: Stationed on the Dures airfield.
  - i. Half Fighter Squadron: Stationed on the Sarande airfield.  
(eight aircraft)
2. In addition,  the presence of small Soviet units on other airfields.

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